

**Resolution In Favor of Federal Support for Easing Restrictions Related to Firefighter
Disability Benefits**

**Offered by:
The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
International Association of Fire Chiefs
National Fire Sprinkler Association
National Volunteer Fire Council**

WHEREAS, firefighters have a demonstrated history of safeguarding America's communities as all-hazards first responders, and

WHEREAS, many firefighters have become ill, and some disabled, as a result of exposures to COVID-19, and

WHEREAS, The Public Safety Officers Benefits (PSOB) Program, administered by the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), provides a one-time benefit to eligible public safety officers who are permanently and totally disabled as a result of a catastrophic injury sustained in the line of duty, and

WHEREAS, that program, by its structure, tends to exclude public safety officers and their families from receiving appropriate benefits, and

WHEREAS, efforts are underway to ease the inappropriately restrictive limitations which would allow public safety officers to receive the one-time disability benefit.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Congressional Fire Services Institute strongly encourages Congress and/or the United States DOJ to take appropriate action to:

Ease restrictions within the PSOB Program related to catastrophic injuries and disability benefits for those firefighters and other public safety officers who can no longer provide for themselves or their families.